

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of an Implementation Plan (IP) for bacteria Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) on a 13.18 miles segment of the Lower Banister River from Elkhorn Creek to Banister Lake, the entire 9.66 miles of Polecat Creek, and 11.78 miles of Sandy Creek from Johns Run to its mouth. These portions of the Banister River watershed are located in Halifax County, including the Town of Halifax. The TMDL study for these stream impairments was completed in November, 2007, and can be found in the *Bacteria TMDLs for Banister River, Bearskin Creek, Cherrystone Creek, Polecat Creek, Stinking River, Sandy Creek, and Whitethorn Creek Watersheds* study report on DEQ's website at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl/apptmdls/roankrvr/banister.pdf>.

Section 62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia requires the development of an IP for approved TMDLs. The IP should provide measurable goals and the date of expected achievement of water quality objectives. The IP should also include the corrective actions needed and their associated costs, benefits, and environmental impacts.

The first public meetings to discuss the development of the IP for the bacteria TMDLs will be held on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the VA Extension Office, USDA Farm Services Building, 171 South Main Street, Halifax, VA 24558. At this meeting, development of the implementation plan will be discussed and citizens will learn how they can be part of the public participation process.

The 30-day public comment period on the information presented at the meeting will end on December 29, 2011. A fact sheet on the development of the IP is available upon request. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Eileen Rowan with the Virginia Department of Conservation and

Recreation. Written comments and inquiries should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Eileen Rowan, VA Department of Conservation and Recreation, 8 Radford St., Suite 102A, Christiansburg, VA 24073, email address: [eileen.rowan@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:eileen.rowan@dcr.virginia.gov), phone # 540-394-2586.